

CONNECTED

March 2006



Project SHARE Makes It Easy for Marietta Power and Water Customers to Help Neighbors in Need

Marietta Power and Water has teamed up with the Salvation Army and concerned customers to support Project SHARE — a vital community program that provides assistance to our Cobb County neighbors who need help keeping up with their energy bills.

When you add a donation to Project SHARE to your monthly utility bill, Marietta Power and Water will match your contributions dollar-for-dollar*. That's right. Every time you contribute a dollar, we will contribute a dollar as well.

Best of all, every bit of the money contributed stays right here to help people in Cobb County. Although the Salvation Army of Georgia coordinates the program on a statewide basis, all contributions donated by Cobb County residents are allocated to the Marietta

Salvation Army Corps to assist people in our area with their personal energy crises. The assistance may take the form of simply paying a gas, electric, or oil bill, yet the program may also finance repairs to vital heating or cooling equipment or other emergency needs, such as food, shelter, and medicine.

To add your contribution — as little as \$1 — to your monthly utility bill, please visit www.mariettapower.com/share and print out the Project SHARE contribution form. Then simply fill out the form and send it in with your next utility payment. Or, mail the form directly to Marietta Power and Water, Customer Service Division, 675 North Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060-1528.

To learn more about the ways Project SHARE helps people in need right here in our community, please call

1 (800) 25-SHARE. ⚡ * (Up to \$10,000 per year.)

Marietta Power and Water Reminds You to Set Your Clocks Forward When Daylight Saving Time Begins on April 2

Daylight Saving Time returns on April 2, 2006, so don't forget to set all of your clocks one hour ahead on the appointed night.

The practice of setting our clocks forward one hour effectively takes one hour of darkness out of the evening and shifts it into the morning. Benjamin Franklin came up with the idea when he was in Paris serving as a U.S. diplomat in 1784. But Franklin's notion didn't exactly catch on over night. The U.S. didn't even try to make the switch until the final days of World War I, and people disliked the change so much that Congress scrapped the idea after the initial trial.

Franklin Roosevelt implemented a different, year-round version of Daylight Saving Time, which he called War Time, during World War II. The nation went back to standard time when the war ended, however, and most people thought that the sun had set forever on Daylight Saving Time.

Then the energy crisis hit in the 1970s, and the nation began looking for new ways to conserve energy resources. As part of that effort, Congress passed the Daylight Saving Time Energy Act in 1973.

The legislation exceeded even the best expectations. Consumption statistics for 1974 and 1975 showed that Daylight Saving Time enabled the nation to save the equivalent of 600,000 barrels of oil during each of the two years. As an added bonus, the extra hour of afternoon sunlight also caused significant drops in crime rates and the number of people injured in automobile accidents.

People also soon warmed up to the idea of having an extra hour of sunlight during the best vacation months of the year. So Daylight Saving Time remained in effect — with the only minor change taking place in 1986, when Congress designated the first Sunday in April as the day we all “spring forward.” ⚡



Budget Billing and Automatic Bank Drafts Take All the Suspense Out of Paying Your Utility Bill

You can now take all the guesswork and unwanted excitement out of paying your utility bill by signing up for Budget Billing and Automatic Bank Drafts from Marietta Power and Water.

Just think of it...no more wondering how much you will have to pay next month...no more rushing to the post office to try and get a payment in before the due date...no more lost discounts when you didn't make it in time.

Marietta Power and Water created the Budget Billing option for customers who want to eliminate seasonal fluctuations in their utility bills and pay the same amount each month. We determine how much a customer pays each month based on an average of the previous 12 months of consumption. When the 12th

bill arrives a year after you sign up, your account will get credited if you overpaid or a charge for the amount you owe will appear.

Automatic Bank Drafts will make your life easier by eliminating the need for writing checks and mailing in (or dropping off) your payment each month. When you sign up for this option, Marietta Power and Water will automatically draft your checking or savings account for the net amount of your bill. So you never again have to worry about remembering when a due date comes up.



To learn more about these convenient billing services, or to sign up for either of these suspense-free options, please contact the Marietta Power and Water's Customer Service Department at (770) 794-5150. ⚡

Calendar of Events

For a complete list of City of Marietta events please visit www.mariettaga.gov and click on Calendar of Events.

Saturday, April 8 **Spring Egg Hunt**

Laurel Park
Free
11 a.m.
Annual Egg Hunt for children at Laurel Park, 151 Manning Road. Visit with the Easter Bunny! Lots of candy and prizes for all.
For more information, call (770) 794-5601.

Saturday, April 8 **Big Chicken Chorus**

Glover Park in the Marietta Square
Free
6 p.m.

April 22 **Cobb County Fun Day**

Glover Park in the Marietta Square
Free
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
For more information, call (770) 528-8800

Marietta Power and Water will be closed on Friday, April 14 in observance of Good Friday.

April 28, 2006 **Glover Park Evening Concert**

Glover Park in the Marietta Square
Free
8 p.m.
The park is the perfect setting for families and friends to enjoy a picnic and listen to music under the stars! Concerts are rain or shine. Blankets and lawn chairs may be set up after 4 p.m. No personal tables are permitted in the park.
For more information, call (770) 794-5601

City news by e-mail

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